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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/644,284

08/20/2003

Brindesh Dhruva

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08/20/2004

SCHLUMBERGER-DOLL RESEARCH  
36 OLD QUARRY ROAD  
RIDGEFIELD, CT 06877-4108

EXAMINER

ROGERS, DAVID A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2856

DATE MAILED: 08/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/644,284	<b>Applicant(s)</b> DHRUVA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> David A. Rogers	<b>Art Unit</b> 2856	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restrictions***

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-11, drawn to a method to detect fluid pressure, classified in class 073, subclass 152.27.
- II. Claims 12-23, drawn to a tool to detect fluid pressure, classified in class 073, subclass 152.27.

2. Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the method does not require all of the elements of the apparatus, such as, among other items, an electrically-driven roller screw planetary system and a dedicated probe. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

3. Should the applicant elect group I then further restriction is required as noted below.

- IA. Claims 2-6, drawn to a method to detect fluid pressure using an abrupt change detection, classified in class 073, subclass 152.27.

IB. Claims 7 and 8, drawn to a method to detect fluid pressure by comparing to a reference value, classified in class 073, subclass 152.27.

IC. Claims 9-11, drawn to a method to detect fluid pressure by expanding a volume of a cavity, classified in class 073, subclass 152.27.

Claim 1 is a linking claim and will be examined with the election of either group IA, IB, or IC.

4. Inventions IA and IB are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention IA has separate utility such as a method to detect a discontinuity in measured pressure. Invention IB has separate utility as a method for detecting a pressure change. See MPEP § 806.05(d). Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group IA is not required for Group IB, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Inventions IA and IC are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention IA has separate utility such as a method to detect a discontinuity in measured pressure. Invention IC has separate utility as a method for sampling fluid from

a borehole. See MPEP § 806.05(d). Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group IA is not required for Group IC, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

6. Inventions IB and IC are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention IB has separate utility as a method for detecting a pressure change. See MPEP § 806.05(d). Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group IB is not required for Group IC, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

7. Should the applicant elect group II then further restriction is required as noted below.

IIA. Claims 13-15 and 23, drawn to a tool with control means,  
classified in class 073, subclass 152.27.

IIB. Claims 16-19, drawn to a tool with a constant volume flow line,  
classified in class 073, subclass 152.27.

IIC. Claims 20-22, drawn to a tool with an isolation valve and probe,  
classified in class 073, subclass 152.27.

Claim 12 is a linking claim and will be examined with the election of either group IIA, IIB, or IIC.

8. Inventions IIA and IIB are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct

from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention IIA has separate utility such as a tool for sampling a fluid downhole. See MPEP § 806.05(d). Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group IIA is not required for Group IIB, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

9. Inventions IIA and IIC are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention IIA has separate utility such as a such as a tool for sampling a fluid downhole. See MPEP § 806.05(d). Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group IIA is not required for Group IIC, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

10. Inventions IIB and IIC are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, invention IB has separate utility as a tool for fluid sampling using constant flow lines. See MPEP § 806.05(d). Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group IIB is not required for Group IIC, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

### ***Conclusion***


11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David A. Rogers whose telephone

number is (571) 272-2205. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (0730 - 1600).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hezron E. Williams can be reached on (571) 272-2208. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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16 August 2004

  
HEZRON WILLIAMS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800